



Quick Start Guide--Audacity Digital Voice Recorder (DVR) Personal Ver. 3.13

This guide is designed to get you started on the right foot with installing and using the Audacity Digital Voice Recorder, Personal Version.

Loading the Application -- A Zip file containing the Audacity application and several related files may be downloaded from the Audacity web site or from any of several retail software partners. Using WinZip, a setup wizard may be started by double clicking on the downloaded Setup.exe file. The setup file includes this Quick Start Guide, a complete Audacity Personal Version Manual, a Palm conduit, and 4 programs that are installed onto the Palm handheld. These are Audacity.prc (the main handheld application), AudAlarm.prc (a required program for the alarm feature to work), and Cardspeed.prc (a free utility to test the speed of your SD card).

The setup wizard provides a choice as to where the application resides on your PC, but we recommend using the default folder: C:\Program Files\AST\.

The setup wizard guides you through putting the three Palm files into the Palm installer and provides the option of which Palm units to install the application files onto. Make sure that Enable Conduit Install is checked. Click Install Palm Software. This will load the files into the Palm installer. The next time you HotSync, the files will be loaded onto your handheld. In order for the Audacity Conduit to be installed you must close the Palm HotSync manager and restart it. In the system tray, locate the Palm HotSync icon and click on it. Select exit. Then go to program files and click on the Palm HotSync Manager, usually associated with the Palm desktop. This will restart the HotSync Manager.

Registration -- The Audacity Demo application is identical to the registered application except the demo application becomes inoperable after 10 days. To register, you must purchase a registration code that is generated from the Palm User ID, also called the HotSync Name. Access the setup menu by pressing the menu button on some models or tapping the upper left corner of the Audacity home screen (SD Card or Internal Memory). The last menu choice is Registration. This screen shows the Palm User ID. You must provide Audacity Audio the exact Palm User ID including capitals and spaces. Audacity Audio will return a registration code. Enter it here.

Where am I recording to? -- The default settings will record to the SD Card (Hard Drive for LifeDrive) if one is present, and to Internal Memory if no SD Card is available. The record location displays in the upper left corner of the Audacity home screen. To change locations, tap the little box on the top row toward the right side that says "Int" or "SD".

SD Card Quality -- Standard Audio formats write a lot of data. Some SD Cards can't keep up. If your playback is very fast or choppy, you probably are experiencing this problem. Solutions: Get a fast card, record to Internal Memory, or try a compressed format. The free CardSpeed Utility will help you to test your card. If you wish more info on SD Cards and how they affect your recording as well as your handheld in general, go to our Web site, www.audacityaudio.com, and access the SD Card section. Here is a direct link: <http://www.audacityaudio.com/sdhome.htm>

Navigation Pad -- The Navigation Pad provides the easiest way to control your recorder. You have five buttons under your thumb. The button functions change with your mode. There are four modes (Home, Record, Playback, and Idle). The Audacity graphic soft buttons at the bottom of the screen display the functions for your current mode. The button functions are very intuitive and the soft button design makes for a quick learning curve. Although all buttons are programmable (under Options, Button Setup), I recommend the defaults. The Audacity control graphic (lower portion of screen) also includes six other buttons representing other hard buttons of a typical PDA / Smartphone. These buttons are also programmable soft buttons as is the side record button. The Audacity Audio implementation of the Navigation Pad "makes" the program. You will never miss the three-way slide switch popular on older style recorders.



Quick Record Options -- Many people are looking for a quick record option. While driving down the highway you get a thought and want to record it. Try supplementing the Navigation Pad with either the side button or one of the hard buttons to either side of the Navigation Pad. In Palm Preferences select your choice of buttons to launch Audacity. In Audacity, go to button setup and set this same button to Record in the Home and Idle modes and to Stop in the Record mode. Now, if you press and hold this button, it will launch and start to record. Pressing it a second time will stop it. It is really launching Audacity, opening a file, and starting the recording with a single button press. The defaults for the side button are set to Record in the idle mode and to stop in the record mode.

With the Treo products, launching and recording from the side button will not work if the Treo is inactive. Doing the same thing with a hard button next to the navigation pad will work. A single button press wakes up the Treo, launches Audacity, and bypasses the keyguard. Press again to stop recording.

Recording Phone Calls with most Treo and Centro models-- Audacity used on a Treo 650, 680, 700P, 755P or Centro will record your phone calls. The easiest way is to use the side record button, but you must first set the side record button to launch Audacity in Palm Preferences. Then, setup the phone call as you normally would. When the party answers on the Treo 650 or a couple of seconds after dialing on the 680, 700P or 755P (the Palm setup process completes-the hold and mute buttons display), press and hold the side button for three seconds. This launches Audacity and starts the recording. The green Palm LED displays during the record process. When the call completes, press the side button or navigation down pad to stop. You can then press the phone call hang-up button or simply wait for the other party to hang up. It's that simple. The icon that precedes the file name displays with a red background and the filename starts with a "P". Treo 680, 700P and 755P users should read the phone call record section of the manual if you are using compressed formats.

Audio Type -- Audacity allows you to record into different audio formats. The default is PCM 8, a standard audio type. Compressed formats are also available which create much smaller files. To select a compressed format go to the Setup Menus and select Preferences. Tap the arrow next to Audio Type and make a choice. Comp 6 offers the smallest file size, but renders the lowest audio quality. The higher the number, the better the audio quality and the larger the file.

Audio Problems -- If you experience audio problems, the full manual includes a section "Creating Good Audio".

Syncing the files. Where did they go? When you perform a HotSync the recorded files are sent to the PC and put into a folder. Compressed files are decompressed automatically during the HotSync. To find the location of these files click on the Palm HotSync icon in the system tray. A menu opens. Select custom. Then select Audacity Personal Files from the resulting menu and click "Change". The screen displays the path to the files.

Other Great Features to Try -- For more details, see our full manual.

Alarm feature -- Lets you record and set an audio alarm.

File Management - Files can be organized into categories.

Programmable Options -- File and folder name, mic gain, Button choices, and others.

The Audacity Personal Version is a great recorder for general note taking. We hope you agree. If you have a need for a professional handheld dictation product, please try the Audacity Professional DVR and some of our file management, transport, and transcriber products. Audacity Professional is also certified for use with Dragon Naturally Speaking, the top speech recognition application. Go to www.audacityaudio.com for complete product information.

We hope Audacity meets your expectations. Thanks for becoming an Audacity customer.